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Oil paintings, digital imagery exhibit

Summary: Christian Angelo Ricco's oil painting portraits and Jenny Kimball's digital images, captured with a flat bed scanner and printed on silk, will be featured at the UMM Humanities Fine Arts Gallery now through December 15.

(October 28, 2005)-Christian Angelo Ricco's oil paintings are essentially portraits of objects he has acquired over time. The selection of these objects is based on an attraction to their form, but in his paintings he not only celebrates their form, but their story as well.

Jenny Kimball uses a flat bed scanner to create digital imagery that is manipulated on the computer and printed on silk. Her images are a response to the momentary physical and spiritual connection she feels when she is in the presence of perfect natural creations.

Works by both artists will comprise the next exhibit in the Gallery of Humanities Fine Arts at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The exhibit will open during a public reception from 4- 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, and continue through December 15.

Ricco stated, "It is no coincidence that I have chosen inanimate objects that have been owned and utilized by those who have come before me. The lives of these objects seem to resonate in such a way that allows them to stare back, as we look at them. And in their gaze are stories remembered. In this respect these paintings are as much portraits of the objects as they are of the people whose lives and experiences they occupied."

He received a bachelor's degree in fine arts, with an emphasis in painting and drawing from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1992, and an master's in fine arts in painting from Bowling Green State University in 1999. His exhibitions include the Milwaukee (Wis.) Institute of Art and Design Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, Ill Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio Slocumb Gallery, Tennessee Muse Gallery, Pa Studio Art Centers International, Florence, Italy, and many others.

Kimball cherishes moments in which she holds freshly picked vegetables in her hands. In her images she creates a record of the beauty she finds in such moments. She stated, "It is my greatest hope as an artist that viewers of this work will broaden their perception of the places where beauty resides. That they might see the iridescent sheen of a discarded onionskin, the red shock of a just washed radish bundle, the earthy velvet of a mushroom, and pause for a second of pleasure."

Kimball received a bachelor's degree from the University of Utah in 2000, and in 2003 an master's in fine arts from the University of California at Davis. Her exhibitions include Phippen Museum, Ariz Mainstay Gallery, Ketchikan Area Arts Council, Ark Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, Neb. Truckee College, Reno, Nev. Stretch Gallery, NC, and many others. Her awards include a Fellowship, UC Davis, 2001-03 Second Place, Fiberart International, 2004 Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts Residency, 2004 UCD Jastro-Shields Grant, 2002 and Cynthia M. Russell

Scholarship, 2002.

Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

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